

Engineering and Design
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF LEVEES

Table of Contents

Subject	Paragraph	Page
Chapter 1		
Introduction		
Purpose	1-1	1-1
Applicability	1-2	1-1
References	1-3	1-1
Objective	1-4	1-1
General Considerations	1-5	1-1
Chapter 2		
Field Investigations		
Preliminary and Final Stage	2-1	2-1
<i>Section I</i>		
<i>Geological Study</i>		
Scope	2-2	2-1
Office Study	2-3	2-2
Field Survey	2-4	2-3
Report	2-5	2-3
<i>Section II</i>		
<i>Subsurface Exploration</i>		
General	2-6	2-3
Phase 1 Exploration	2-7	2-3
Phase 2 Exploration	2-8	2-3
Borings	2-9	2-4
Geophysical Exploration	2-10	2-4
<i>Section III</i>		
<i>Field Testing</i>		
Preliminary Strength Estimates	2-11	2-6
Vane Shear Tests	2-12	2-6
Groundwater and Pore Pressure Observations	2-13	2-7
Field Pumping Tests	2-14	2-7

Subject	Paragraph	Page
Chapter 3		
Laboratory Testing		
General	3-1	3-1
Classification and Water Content Determinations	3-2	3-2
<i>Section I</i>		
<i>Fine-Grained Soils</i>		
Use of Correlations	3-3	3-2
Shear Strength	3-4	3-7
Consolidation	3-5	3-7
Permeability	3-6	3-7
Compaction Tests	3-7	3-7
<i>Section II</i>		
<i>Coarse-Grained Soils</i>		
Shear Strength	3-8	3-8
Permeability	3-9	3-8
Density Testing of Pervious Fill	3-10	3-8
Chapter 4		
Borrow Areas		
General	4-1	4-1
Available Borrow Material	4-2	4-1
General Layout	4-3	4-1
Design and Utilization	4-4	4-2
Chapter 5		
Seepage Control		
<i>Section I</i>		
<i>Foundation Underseepage</i>		
General	5-1	5-1
Cutoffs	5-2	5-1
Riverside Blankets	5-3	5-1
Landside Seepage Berms	5-4	5-2
Pervious Toe Trench	5-5	5-3
Pressure Relief Wells	5-6	5-5
<i>Section II</i>		
<i>Seepage Through Embankments</i>		
General	5-7	5-8
Pervious Toe Drain	5-8	5-9
Horizontal Drainage Layers	5-9	5-10
Inclined Drainage Layers	5-10	5-10
Design of Drainage Layers	5-11	5-10
Compaction of Drainage Layers	5-12	5-10

Subject	Paragraph	Page
Chapter 6		
Slope Design and Settlement		
<i>Section I</i>		
<i>Embankment Stability</i>		
Embankment Geometry	6-1	6-1
Standard Levee Sections and Minimum Levee Section	6-2	6-1
Effects of Fill Characteristics and Compaction	6-3	6-2
<i>Section II</i>		
<i>Stability Analyses</i>		
Methods of Analysis	6-4	6-3
Conditions Requiring Analysis	6-5	6-3
Minimum Acceptable Factors of Safety	6-6	6-4
Measures to Increase Stability	6-7	6-4
Surface Slides	6-8	6-5
<i>Section III</i>		
<i>Settlement</i>		
General	6-9	6-6
Settlement Analyses	6-10	6-6
Chapter 7		
Levee Construction		
<i>Section I</i>		
<i>Levee Construction Methods</i>		
Classification of Methods	7-1	7-1
<i>Section II</i>		
<i>Foundations</i>		
Foundation Preparation and Treatment	7-2	7-1
Methods of Improving Stability	7-3	7-3
<i>Section III</i>		
<i>Embankments</i>		
Embankment Construction Control	7-4	7-5
Embankment Zoning	7-5	7-6
Protection of Riverside Slopes	7-6	7-6
Chapter 8		
Special Features		
<i>Section I</i>		
<i>Pipelines and Other Utility Line Crossing Levees</i>		
General Considerations	8-1	8-1
General Considerations for Pipelines Crossing Through or Under Levees	8-2	8-2
General Consideration for Pipelines Crossing Over Levees	8-3	8-3

Subject	Paragraph	Page
Pipe Selection	8-4	8-3
Antiseepage Devices	8-5	8-4
Closure Devices	8-6	8-6
Camber	8-7	8-6
Installation Requirements	8-8	8-7
<i>Section II</i>		
<i>Access Roads and Ramps</i>		
Access Roads	8-9	8-10
Ramps	8-10	8-10
<i>Section III</i>		
<i>Levee Enlargement</i>		
General	8-11	8-12
Earth-Levee Enlargement	8-12	8-12
Floodwall-Levee Enlargement	8-13	8-13
<i>Section IV</i>		
<i>Junction with Concrete Closure Structures</i>		
General	8-14	8-15
Design Considerations	8-15	8-17
<i>Section V</i>		
<i>Other Special Features</i>		
Construction of Ditches Landside of Levee	8-16	8-17
Levee Vegetation Management	8-17	8-17

Appendix A
References

Appendix B
Mathematical Analysis of Underseepage and Substratum Pressure

Appendix C
Design of Seepage Berms

Appendix D
Filter Design

Appendix E
Drainage Trench

Appendix F
Emergency Flood Protection

Appendix G
Use of Soil Cement for Levee Protection

Appendix H Notation

List of Tables

No.	Title	Page
1-1.	Major and Minimum Requirements	1-2
1-2.	Classification of Levees According to Use	1-3
2-1.	Factors Requiring Intensive Field Investigations and Design Studies	2-1
2-2.	Stages of Field Investigations	2-2
2-3.	Types of Contour Maps	2-3
2-4.	Phase I Boring and Sampling Techniques	2-4
2-5.	Applicable Geophysical Methods of Exploration	2-6
2-6.	Preliminary Appraisal of Foundation Strengths	2-7
3-1.	Laboratory Testing of Fine-Grained Cohesive Soils	3-1
3-2.	Laboratory Testing of Pervious Materials	3-2
6-1.	Minimum Factors of Safety - Levee Slope Stability	6-4
7-1.	Classification According to Construction Method of Levees Composed of Imperious and Semiperious Materials	7-2
7-2.	Embankment Construction Deficiencies	7-6
8-1.	Criteria for Pipelines Crossing Levees	8-2
B-1.	Factors Involved in Seepage Analyses	B-2
B-2.	Methods for Determination of Design Parameters	B-3
B-3.	Examples of Transformation Procedure	B-5
C-1.	Summary of Distances to Effective Source of Seepage, Effective Lengths of Riverside Blankets, and Vertical Permeability of Riverside Blanket Materials at the Crest of 1950 High Water	C-2
C-2.	Examples of Design of Seepage Berms	C-7
D-1.	Categories of Base Soil Materials	D-2
D-2.	Criteria for Filters	D-3
D-3.	D ₁₀ and D ₉₀ Limits for Preventing Segregation	D-3
F-1.	Matching Pipe Size to Pump Size	F-11
F-2.	Crisafulli Pumps - Model CP 2 inch to 24 inch	F-12
F-3.	Marlow Self Priming Centrifugal Pumps	F-12
F-4.	Capacity of Corrugated Metal Pipe Culverts	F-14
G-1.	Initial Cement Content for Moisture Density Tests	G-3
G-2.	Durability Test Weight Loss Criteria	G-4
G-3.	Unconfined Compressive Strength Criteria (ASTM D 1633)	G-5

List of Figures

No.	Figure	Page
3-1.	Plasticity chart (ENG Form 4334	3-3
3-2.	Example correlations of strength characteristic for fine-grained soils	3-4
3-3.	Example correlations for consolidation characteristics of fine-grained soils (after Kapp, ref. A-5e)	3-5
3-4.	Comparisons of Atterberg limits and natural water content	3-7
3-5.	Example correlations for properties of coarse-grained soils	3-9
4-1.	Plan of typical levee and borrow areas with traverse and foreshore	4-3

No.	Figure	Page
5-1.	Example of incorrect and correct berm length according to existing foundation conditions	5-2
5-2.	Typical partially penetrating pervious toe trench	5-4
5-3.	Typical pervious toe trench with collector pipe (Figure 5-6 shows trench details)	5-5
5-4.	Pervious toe trench located beneath landward slope	5-5
5-5.	Special equipment for compacting sand in pervious toe trenches	5-6
5-6.	Pervious toe trench with collector pipe	5-7
5-7.	Typical relief well	5-8
5-8.	Embankment with through seepage	5-9
5-9.	Use of horizontal and inclined drainage layers to control seepage through an embankment	5-11
8-1.	Typical sections, drainage structures through levees	8-5
8-2.	Typical precast conduit (levees)	8-5
8-3.	Details of pipeline levee crossing	8-9
8-4.	Example of levee turnout	8-11
8-5.	Example of levee turnaround	8-11
8-6.	Enlargements	8-13
8-7.	I-type floodwall-levee enlargement	8-14
8-8.	Inverted T-type floodwall-levee enlargement	8-15
8-9.	Junction of levee and drainage structure	8-16
B-1.	Illustration of symbols used in Appendix B	B-4
B-2.	Transformation of top strata	B-6
B-3.	Effective seepage exit length for $L_3 = 4$ and $d = 100$ m or 100 ft	B-8
B-4.	Relation between x_3 for blocked or open exits and x_3 for $L_3 = 4$	B-10
B-5.	Equations for computation of underseepage flow and substratum pressures for Cases 1 through 4	B-14
B-6.	Equations for computation of underseepage flow and substratum pressures for Cases 5 and 6	B-15
B-7.	Equations for computation of underseepage and substratum pressures for Case 7	B-16
B-8.	Ratio between head landward of levee and head at landside toe of levee for levees found on semipervious to stratum underlain by a pervious substratum	B-18
C-1.	Design of landside seepage berms on impervious top stratum	C-4
D-1.	Analysis of a gap-graded material	D-5
D-2.	Illustration of the design of a graded filter	D-7
E-1.	Formulas and design curves for drainage trenches (ref. A-3b (2))	E-2
E-2.	Example of design of a drainage trench	E-5
F-1.	Sandbag barrier	F-5
F-2.	Flash board and box levee	F-6
F-3.	Placement of polyethylene sheeting on temporary levee	F-7
F-4.	Placement of polyethylene sheeting in the wet	F-8
F-5.	Prefabricated rubber pipe stoppers for outlet opening of a manhole	F-16
F-6.	Prefabricated rubber pipe stoppers for outlet opening of a manhole	F-16
F-7.	Typical manhole	F-17
F-8.	Adapting manhole for use as emergency pumping station	F-18
F-9.	Sealing top of manhole with wood	F-19
F-10.	Treatment of bottom of manhole	F-20
F-11.	Suction line to pump from manhole	F-21
F-12.	Ringling sand boils	F-23

No.	Figure	Page
G-1.	Typical moisture-density curve	G-4
G-2.	Stair-step method of slope protection	G-6
G-3.	Relationship of slope, facing thickness, layer thickness, and horizontal layer width	G-7
G-4.	Typical pug mill central plant	G-10
G-5.	Mixing paddles of a twin-shaft, continuous-flow central mixing plant	G-10
G-6.	Typical construction sequence	G-11
G-7.	“Deadman” pulling vibratory sheepsfoot roller up the slope	G-12
G-8.	Transverse single-shaft rotary mixer	G-14
G-9.	Bulk mechanical spreader	G-15